『$100 IS TOO CHEAP』
NAME'S PETEY. I'M A GIRL THOUGH ...
GUESS HOW OLD I AM.
20
WHY?
HOO--HAH-HAH!
EVEN IF YOU WERE OVER 21, YOU WOULDN'T GET ANGRY IF I GUESSED LOWER, RIGHT?
OHH-
JUST AN EDUCATED GUESS. UNDERAGE CUSTOMERS TEND TO ORDER BEERS.
BOUNTY HUNTER.
WHAT ABOUT MY PROFES-SION?
YEP, YOU'RE RIGHT.
OKAY, THEN.

FAKE
NORMAL
IN SPITE OF THAT, YOU DRESS NORMALLY, AND YOUR GLASSES ARE FAKE.
A WORK HABIT.
YOU IMMEDIATELY CHECKED TO SEE WHETHER I HAD A GUN.
WHEN YOU FIRST CAME IN THROUGH THE DOOR,
ANYONE WHO CHECKS FOR A GUN MUST BE-
A BOUNTY HUNTER.
CUSTOMERS WHO COME IN WITH DISGUISES ARE EITHER...
BOUNTY HUNTERS OR CELEBRITIES.
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
HEY,
WOW~ NICE JOB!
I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH QUESTIONS FOR NOW... LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.
WHAT'S THE MYSTERY YOU WANT ME TO SOLVE?

100

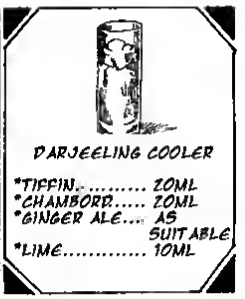
KAZUNE YAMAMOTO

Cleaner- peeBs
my first and last project! enjoy!

Raw- Unok
Translation-Meriken

HMM?A 17-YEAR-OLD BARTENDER, HUH. PRETTY BIZARRE IF YOU ASK ME.
I GET THAT OFTEN.
SUNA (AGE 17), MALE MYSTERY SOLVER & BARTENDER
MYSTERY SOLVER = A PERSON OR GROUP OF PERSONS WHO SOLVE MYSTERIES FOR A LIVING.

HERE YOU GO.


DARJEELING COOLER
*TIFFIN..... 20ML
*CHAMBORD..... 20ML
*GINGER ALE.... AS SUITABLE
*LIME..... 10ML

EVERY MYSTERY NEEDS A LITTLE BIT OF EXPLAINING,
-ALRIGHT.
SO HERE GOES.

LIKE YOU SAID, I'M A BOUNTY HUNTER, BUT...
LATELY, THERE'S BEEN A HUGE INCREASE IN OUR NUMBERS.
ABOUT 200 IN MY TOWN, I THINK.
200
YOU KNOW HOW ALL THE MINES HAVE BEEN CLOSING BECAUSE THEY CAN'T FIND ANYMORE GOLD? I GUESS THE WORKERS DRIFTED OVER INTO BOUNTY HUNTING,
BUT...
OH,
NOT ME THOUGH. I WAS ORIGINALLY WITH IRONY RAILWAYS AND...
.....
ANYWAYS,
MY TOWN'S CHOCK-FULL OF BOUNTY HUNTERS. PLUS, THERE'S EVEN THE GUILDS AND THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE!
THERE'S JUST WAAAY TOO MANY OF US.

IT REALLY MAKES ME WANNA CRY! I MEAN, THE COMPETITION JUST GETS TOUGHER AND TOUGHER AND YOU CAN BARELY EVEN SCRAPE OUT A LIVING!
OH,
I WANTED TO BE A SHERIFF BY THE WAY...
.....
SO YOU'RE SAYING THEY SHOULD HIRE MORE WHEN THERE'S THAT MANY PEOPLE WILLING TO DO THE JOB.
EXACTLY!
JUST ONE! WHEN THERE'S 200 BOUNTY HUNTERS LYING AROUND!
BUT THIS YEAR, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WERE ONLY HIRING ONE NEW SHERIFF!
.....
ANYWAYS, THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT.
IT'S LIKE DROPPING BREAD CRUMBS INTO A LAKE FILLED WITH FISH!
YOU SEE, WHEN THERE'S THAT MANY PEOPLE, THE CRIMINALS AS GOOD AS CAPTURED ONCE THAT WANTED POSTER GOES UP

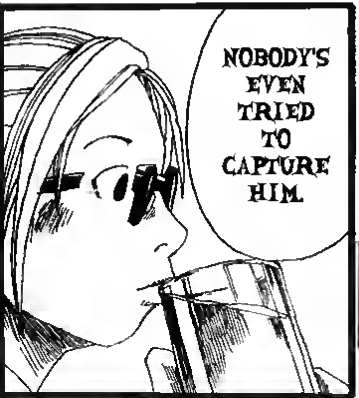
SHIRLEY TEMPLE
(NON-ALCOHOLIC)
*GRENADINE....30ML
*GINGER ALE....30ML
*LIME....1 PIECE

HEY!
I'M GETTING THERE, ALRIGHT.

UMM... CAN YOU MAYBE NOT TALK ABOUT YOURSELF SO MUCH?
-UHH,
OH YEAH! SPEAKING OF LAKES, THIS ONE TIME I...!

?
IT'S BEEN 3 MONTHS, AND HE'S STILL AT LARGE.
THE GUY'S NAME IS "BLUE CHEESE."
NO CRIMINAL'S EVER LASTED THIS LONG AFTER GETTING A WANTED POSTER
BLUE CHEESE

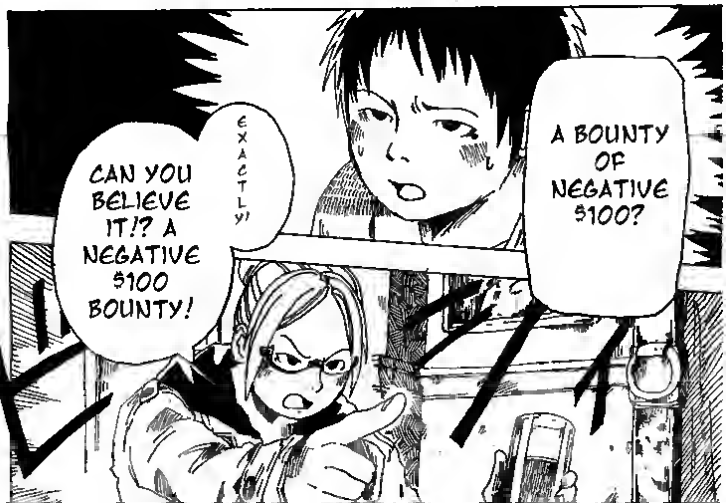
THERE'S ONE SCRAP OF BREAD THAT NOBODY'S GOBBLED UP


NOBODY'S EVEN TRIED TO CAPTURE HIM.

ISN'T HE JUST REALLY TOUGH TO CATCH? OR MAYBE HE'S ALREADY DEAD
NOPE, YOU SEE...

BECAUSE
WHY?
?

-700
HUH?


A BOUNTY OF NEGATIVE $100?
EXACTLY!
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT!? A NEGATIVE $100 BOUNTY!

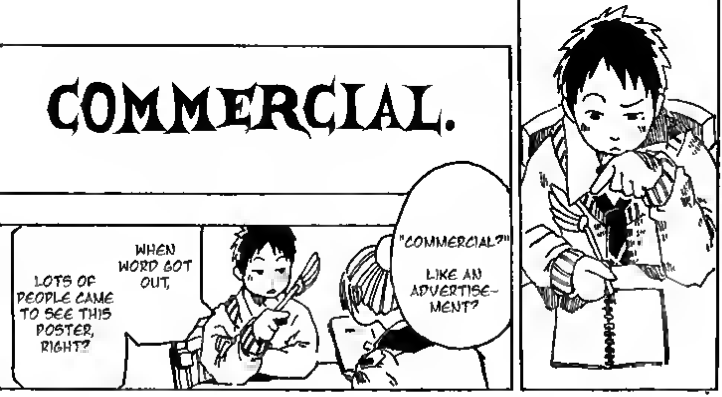
NEGA-TIVE...? THAT MEANS
NORMALLY, YOU'D BE PAID FOR CATCHING A WANTED PERSON, RIGHT?
IT'S THE OPPOSITE
A FINE! YOU HAVE TO PAY $100 IF YOU CATCH THE CRIMINAL!
WANTED
BLUE CHEESE
-100
REALLY?
THEN WHY WOULD ANYONE?
THAT IS IT!
THAT'S THE MYSTERY I WANT YOU TO SOLVE FOR ME.
THAT IS WHAT I CAME HERE FOR.

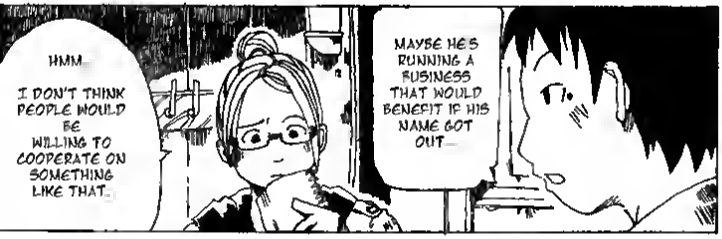
...20.
IT'S THE BLUE ONE OVER THERE.
CAN YOU CHECK THE ROOM TEMPERATURE FOR ME?
FUZZY NAVEL
*PEACH LIQUEUR.....30ML
*ORANGE JUICE.....AS SUITABLE
MAY I ASK ONE QUESTION?
OH C'MON?! A STRANGE BOUNTY LIKE THAT WOULD CATCH ANYBODY'S EYE-!
IT'S CURIOSITY!
EVERYBODY WANTS TO KNOW!
WHY DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT?
IT'S NOT GOING TO MAKE YOU ANY MONEY, RIGHT?
.....
CURIOSITY.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO AND CAPTURE HIM?
THE FINE'S ONLY $100.
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE BOUNTY HUNTING! YOU PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE FOR EVERY CRIMINAL!
I'M NOT WORKING FOR FREE.
THAT'S WHY ALL THE OTHER BOUNTY HUNTERS LOST INTEREST.
WELL... MY CURIOSITY GOT THE BEST OF ME. I GUESS THAT'S WHY I'M HERE RIGHT NOW...

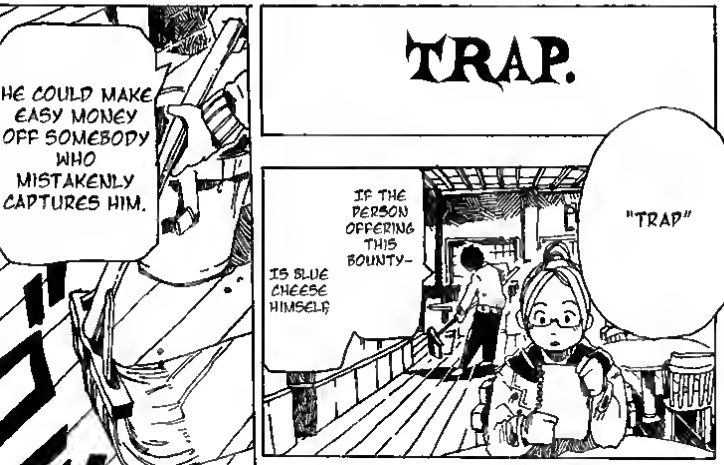
VERY WELL, I'LL TAKE THIS CASE.
LET'S BEGIN BY JOTTING DOWN ANY POSSIBILITIES WE CAN THINK OF. PROCESS OF ELIMINATION IS THE BASIS FOR ANY LINE OF REASONING.
I ASKED AROUND FOR THE MYSTERY SOLVER WITH THE MOST FREE TIME ON THEIR HANDS, AND THEY INTRODUCED YOU.
WHAT A RUDE INTRO-DUCTION.

COMMERCIAL.




MAYBE HE'S RUNNING A BUSINESS THAT WOULD BENEFIT IF HIS NAME GOT OUT...
HMM...
I DON'T THINK PEOPLE WOULD BE WILLING TO COOPERATE ON SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

TRAP.


"TRAP"
IF THE PERSON OFFERING THIS BOUNTY-
IS BLUE CHEESE HIMSELF
HE COULD MAKE EASY MONEY OFF SOMEBODY WHO MISTAKENLY CAPTURES HIM.

WARNING.
"WARNING"
YES.
EITHER WAY ISN'T $100 TOO CHEAP FOR THAT?
THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE PUT UP THIS BOUNTY
..THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE PUT IT UP..?
I SEE...
?
HOW DO YOU COME UP WITH SO MANY IDEAS?
GOSH,
BUT THAT CAN'T BE IT...
SO IN REVERSE, A NEGATIVE BOUNTY INDICATES THAT THEY DON'T WANT THE PERSON CAPTURED
USUALLY A BOUNTY INDICATES THAT THEY WANT THE PERSON CAPTURED
MAYBE THIS CRIMINAL NAMED "BLUE CHEESE" IS ACTUALLY AN IMPORTANT GOVERNMENTAL FIGURE, OR A SECRET PHILANTHROPIST

FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE...
OHH...
THAT GUY'S A STRAIGHT-UP CRIMINAL.
HE EVEN STOLE MONEY FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE. THAT'S WHY THEY PUT THE BOUNTY UP.
HOO-HAH--HAH!
YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME THAT BEFORE.
IF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE WAS THE VICTIM, AND PUT THE BOUNTY ON HIS HEAD,
THEN NATURALLY, THEY MUST ALSO BE THE ONES BEHIND ALL OF THIS
WELL?
✗Chanc
✗Clear
✗desig
✗Land
✗God
✗Char
✗TERM

?
.....
THIS IS A CAMERA. IT RECORDS SCENERY INTO A PHOTO-GRAPH.
I KNOW.
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO USE IT SO PLEASE GET ME A PHOTOGRAPH OF THAT WANTED POSTER
!
ME!? NO WAY!!
I STILL HAVE SOME WORK LEFT AND BESIDES, I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE POSTER IS.
RIGHT NOW!? DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW LONG IT TAKES TO GET THERE!?
THE STAGECOACH SHOULD BE DEPARTING SHORTLY PLEASE COME BACK WITHIN 3 HOURS.
.....

GO!!!
ALRIGHT...
DAHH-
I WIN.
DAMN RIGHT! YOU BEAT ME TODAY, ALRIGHT!! BASTARD!
OH, YOU GOING HOME ALREADY?
TAKE IT, THIEF!
THERE'S SOME WEIRD GIRL THAT'S OUT TRYING TO ARREST YOU.
HEY BLUE CHEESE, YOU HEARD ABOUT THIS?

TAKE ONE GOOD LOOK AT THAT BOUNTY ON MY HEAD. YOU'LL SEE WHY.
NO WAY IN HELL. YOU GOTTA COME UP WITH SOMETHING BETTER THAN THAT.
ALRIGHT.
HERE.
MILK TEA (NON-ALCOHOLIC)
WATER 100ML
TEA LEAVES AS SUITABLE
MILK 10ML
HEY. WERE YOU THINKING IT WAS A TYPO OR A JOKE OR SOMETHING?
I'M NOT THAT DUMB, YOU KNOW!
NO NO,
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
PLEASE, HAVE SOME TEA

DAMN, I LOST AGAIN.
MAYBE I SHOULD GO ROB SOMEONE
.....
IT WASN'T THAT
I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU READ THE POSTER CORRECTLY
WELL,
I GUESS IT'S OVER THEN.
BUT,
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE RIGHT
YOU LITTLE ...!
I DON'T NEED THIS PHOTOGRAPH ANYMORE.
NO WAIT... I COULD USE THE BACK AS SCRAP PAPER...

OH WELL, I HAD FUN ANYWAYS
IT'S ABOUT TIME I MOVED ON TO OTHER THINGS.
YOU SHOULD GO CAPTURE HIM.
IMMEDIATELY.
!
NO.

DON'T MOVE.
!!?
YOU FIGURED IT OUT?
REMEMBER HOW I SAID THAT THE PROCESS OF ELIMINATION IS THE BASIS FOR ANY LINE OF REASONING?
ELIMINATING EACH HYPOTHESIS LEAVES THE MOST LOGICAL EXPLANATION
HERE
Scout.
"SCOUT...?"

KYOUM
WHAT THE...!?
DON'T TURN AROUND. JUST ANSWER MY QUESTIONS
WHO THE HELL?!?
YOUR NAME IS BLUE CHEESE
YOU ARE A WANTED MAN YOUR CRIME WAS THEFT
GOOD
NOD IF WHAT I'VE SAID IS CORRECT

I'M A BOUNTY HUNTER, I'M GOING TO HAND YOU OVER TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE
LISTEN CAREFULLY—
HAH! HAVEN'T YOU HEARD ABOUT ME!?
THE BOUNTY ON MY HEAD IS-
SHUT UP.
LISTEN.
I'M GOING TO COUNT TO 10.
!
CHOOSE WHETHER YOU WANT TO COME QUIETLY OR PUT UP A FIGHT
GOOD.
I'LL GO! I'LL FOLLOW YOU! JUST STOP SKIPPING NUMBERS!
AL-RIGHT AL-RIGHT!
10
4
3

DON'T FALL BEHIND
IT'S PRETTY FAR WE WON'T MAKE IT BEFORE DAY-BREAK IF WE WALK
IS THAT RIGHT?
THAT'S GONNA BE TOUGH
I MIGHT NOT LOOK IT, BUT I HAVE LUMBAGO
DOCTOR SAID ONE OF THE BONES IN MY BACK IS ALL WORN OUT. LET'S SEE, WAS IT THE 2ND OR 3RD VERTEBRAE...?
THINK IT WAS RIGHT AROUND HERE...

DON'T MAKE ME DRAW. MORON.

OKAY
CONFIRMER
GO OVER TO THE FRONT.
AL-
RIGHT,
BLUEHE

I DON'T THINK SO..
DO YOU THINK THERE'S A BOUNTY HUNTER OUT THERE WHO WOULD CAP-TURE CRIMINALS WITH NO BOUNTY ON THEIR HEADS, MS. PETEY?
WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO YOU THINK HE WOULD BE?
IF THERE WAS ONE,
BUT IF..
EXACTLY! I THINK SO TOO
くすくす
WELL
?
THAT'S IT..
IF YOU KEEP ELIMINATING MEANINGS FROM THIS MYSTERY ALL THAT REMAINS IS THE SIMPLE TRUTH
LIKE HE WON'T STAND TO SEE ANY CRIMINALS WALKING AROUND
HE MUST HAVE AN ANNOYINGLY STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE
JUST IF

ABOUT THE REWARD...
.....
HERE
THEY'RE JUST WAITING.
FOR A BOUNTY HUNTER WITH A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE TO APPEAR.
THINGS GET CLEARER IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT THAT WAY.
THEY'RE SEEING IF THERE'S A BOUNTY HUNTER WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO CAPTURE CRIMINALS FOR NO MONETARY REWARD...
THE WANTED PERSON ISN'T IMPORTANT AT ALL. THE BOUNTY HUNTERS ARE THE ONES THAT ARE BEING TESTED.
SO ...
HEY, HOLD UP.
I GET THE "TEST" PART,
BUT BLUE CHEESE'S CRIME IS TOO MINOR FOR THAT. HE'S JUST A PETTY THIEF!

ARE YOU...
HMM-
MS. PETEY,
100
I KNOW. HERE.
THAT'S WHY THEY USED BLUE CHEESE. HE WAS ONLY IN TROUBLE WITH THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE
THEY CAN'T USE BIG-TIME CRIMINALS SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT'VE ALREADY PUT A BOUNTY ON THEIR HEADS
OKAY,
SO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FINDS THIS BOUNTY HUNTER WITH THE STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE... AND THEN WHAT? DO THEY GET COMMENDED?
LIKE, "WOW?IT'S SO GREAT OF YOU TO CAPTURE A CRIMINAL FOR NO REWARD?!?" WHAT'S THE POINT OF THAT!?
THE ANSWER
IS WHAT YOU SAID AT THE VERY BEGINNING.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SHERIFF?
THEY'RE SCOUTING FOR A NEW SHERIFF
DIDN'T YOU THINK IT WAS ODD?
THEY ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WERE ONLY HIRING ONE NEW SHERIFF?
IF THEY JUST WANTED TO HIRE A SHERIFF THE SOONER THE BETTER THEY COULD JUST PICK OUT THE MOST ABLE INDIVIDUAL AND APPOINT THEM. WHAT COULD THEY POSSIBLY BE WAITING FOR?
PUBLICLY ANNOUNCING THAT THEY WOULD ONLY HIRE ONE NEW SHERIFF.
THAT MYSTERIOUS NEGATIVE $100 BOUNTY WAS THE TICKET TO GETTING THAT SHERIFF'S JOB.
THE ANSWER IS, THEY'RE WAITING FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE.

ONE WEEK LATER-
IS IT TOO BIG...?
NO NO, IT LOOKS GOOD.
REALLY?
IF THEY WANTED TO HIRE THE CANDIDATE WITH THE STRONGEST SENSE OF JUSTICE THEN I SUPPOSE USING THIS METHOD WOULD MAKE SENSE
DON'T YOU AGREE THAT THIS IS THE ONE AND ONLY LOGICAL CONCLUSION?
DO YOU HAVE ANY PROOF?
.....
I DON'T.
BESIDES, THIS ISN'T A CASE WHERE YOU CAN GATHER EVIDENCE.
BUT I THINK IT'S WELL WORTH THE RISK IF YOU WISH TO BECOME A SHERIFF MS. PETEY
YOU HAVE TO GO AND CAPTURE THE CRIMINAL TO FIND OUT
THAT'S TRUE
BUT JUST ONE THING—
WHAT'S WITH THE NEGATIVE $100!?
WHY DIDN'T THEY JUST LEAVE IT AT ZERO?
I THOUGHT ABOUT THAT TOO
I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THIS?
BUT IT'S PROBABLY

THE UNIFORM FEE.
THEY'RE SELLING IT!?
THAT'S SO STINGY!!!
YES, WELL... ADULTS ARE ALL STINGY.

YER
I'LL TRUST YOU REASONING.
YOU'RE GOING?
GOSH, I CAN'T TELL WHETHER YOU'RE REALLY SMART,
OR JUST PLAIN STUPID
BESIDES, I'VE GOT TO HURRY
HOW MUCH IS THE BILL?
UHH,
LET'S SEE... THE SOLVING FEE
DRINK FEE AND OTHER EXPENSES COMES OUT TO...
END
HOO!
HAH-HAH-HAH!
HEY, IT'S EXACTLY $100.